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March 31, 2004

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATIONCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Application of Etsuko KADOWAKI, Kousuke NARUMI and Hiroshi UCHIDA
CATALYST FOR USE IN PRODUCING LOWER ALIPHATIC
CARBOXYLIC ACID ESTER, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE
CATALYST, AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING LOWER ALIPHATIC
CARBOXYLIC ACID ESTER USING THE CATALYST
Assignee: SHOWA DENKO K.K.
Our Ref: Q79683

Dear Sir:

This is a request for a Divisional Application of pending prior Application No. 09/958,271 (Confirmation No.6392) filed October 9, 2001 of Etsuko KADOWAKI, Kousuke NARUMI and Hiroshi UCHIDA entitled CATALYST FOR USE IN PRODUCING LOWER ALIPHATIC CARBOXYLIC ACID ESTER, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE CATALYST, AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING LOWER ALIPHATIC CARBOXYLIC ACID ESTER USING THE CATALYST, which was the National Stage Entry of International Application No. PCT/JP01/07709, filed September 5, 2001, which claims benefit of Provisional Application No. 60/238,431 filed October 10, 2000.

This application is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b). Enclosed is a specification (40 pages), including the claims and abstract, and a copy of the Declaration (4 pages) as filed in the prior application. Also enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement, and a PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) listing references cited by applicant and/or the examiner during prosecution of the prior application.

The prior application is assigned to Group Art Unit 1754.

Priority and benefit are claimed from:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application No</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
Japan	2000-271416	September 7, 2000
U.S. Provisional	60/238,431	October 10, 2000

The priority document(s) were filed in parent Application No. 09/958,271.



The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims	<u>12</u>	-	20	=		x	\$18.00	=	<u>\$0.00</u>
Independent claims	<u>1</u>	-	3	=		x	\$86.00	=	<u>\$0.00</u>
Base Fee									<u>\$770.00</u>
Multiple Dependent Claim Fee									<u>\$290.00</u>
TOTAL FILING FEE									<u>\$1060.00</u>

A check for the statutory fee of \$1060.00 is attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

A Petition and payment for an extension of time is being filed concurrently herewith in Application No. 09/958,271. The application is timely filed.

Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Attorneys for Applicant

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